(b) The MEGSAT Scheme is being implemented through existing training institutions and by utilising the expertise and facilities available in academic and research institutions. As such, it is not proposed to set up or equip any institution for this purpose.

(c) Under the Scheme, private institutions e.g. voluntary agencies and non governmental organisations having past experience in related fields can be considered for providing financial assistance to meet the cost of training only.

TWENTY YEAR OLD PREDICTION ON RECENT EARTHQUAKE

3269. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD :
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that two geophysicist Shri N. G. Neogi and N. Krishna Brahman had predicted 20 years ago that an earthquake would occur in the fault zone of the Kurduwadi rift valley beneath the Deccan traps along which the epicentre of the recent earthquake laid;

(b) whether the villagers of affected villages had requested the authorities in 1992 to take steps as during that year they had felt quake shocks very often;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the authorities in this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) Dr. J. Negi and Dr. N. Krishna Brahman in their note published in 1973 postulated the existence of a rift near Kuruduwadi extending from northwest to southeast epicentre of the Latur earthquake on 30-9-93 was, however, more than 100 km. northeast of Kuruduwadi rift as postulated by them. It will, therefore, not be scientifically convincing to say that the Latur earthquake was due to this geological feature near Kuruduwadi.

(b) India Meteorological Department, on the request of Maharashtra Government, a Senior Seismologist was sent to Latur for field Survey in October, 1992.

(c) After the occurrence of earthquake of 18th October, 1992 field parties were sent to Latur by GSI and IMD for survey.

(d) After the survey, a report was sent to the Government of Maharashtra, giving the scientific assessment of seismicity of the area and past history of earthquakes in the region.

मेघालय में यूरेनियम के भंडार

3270. श्री शारदा मुद्गली :

श्री सोमपाल :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान दिनांक 3 सितम्बर 1993 के "राष्ट्रीय सहारा, दिल्ली" में "मेघालय में कच्चा यूरेनियम उत्खनन का विरोध राजनीति से प्रेरित" शीर्षक के अंतर्गत प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर आकर्षित किया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वहां यूरेनियम का कितना भंडार उपलब्ध होने का अनुमान है;

(ग) अब तक निकाले गये यूरेनियम की कुल मात्रा कितनी है;

(घ) क्या यह भी सच है कि उत्खनन कार्य में कुछ विदेशी कामगारों को भी काम में लगाया जा रहा है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उनकी संख्या कितनी है तथा इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग और अंतरिक्ष विभाग में राज्य मंत्री तथा विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री भुवनेश चतुर्वेदी) :

(क) जी हां ।

(ख) डोमियासियात, मेघालय में 9,500 मीटरी टन यूरेनियम आक्साइड के भंडार उपलब्ध होने का अनुमान है जो कि 9.22 मिलियन मीटरी टन अयस्क में विद्यमान है और इसमें यू 3O8 (यूरेनियम आक्साइड) का औसत ग्रेड 0.104% है ।

(ग) अन्वेषणात्मक खनन कार्य पूरा किया जा चुका है और केवल 640 मीटरी टन अयस्क का उत्खनन किया गया है ।

(घ) जी, नहीं ।

(ङ) यह प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

FLEXIBLE COMPLEMENTING SCHEME

3271. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any review of the Flexible Complementing scheme has been under taken by Government;

(b) whether the said scheme will be extended for promotion of scientists in National Atlas and Thematic Mapping Organisation (NATMO); and

(c) if so, by when the extension thereof will come into effect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) An Inter-Departmental Group consisting of representatives of officers of the Ministry of Finance, Department of Personnel & Training and Department of Science & Technology has been constituted to look into the various aspects of the Flexible Complementing Scheme.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal to extend the scheme to the National Atlas and Thematic Mapping Organisation, Calcutta.

SETTING UP OF BANK TO CONSERVE MEDICINAL AND AROMATIC PLANTS

****3271A. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government have decided to set-up Banks to conserve medicinal and aromatic plants as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 13th December, 1993;

(b) If so, what is the location (state-wise) indicating whether any such Bank is likely to be set-up in Rajasthan and Orissa;

(c) What are the regions of exploration surveys assigned to such Banks indicating plans for development of natural data base, documentation etc.; and

(d) Whether any budgetary provisions have been made during 1993-94 indicating aid|assistance if any expected to be received from the World Bank and other International Financial Institutions, if so, the details thereof.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Government of India through the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology have set up three national gene banks to conserve the medicinal and aromatic plants in the country. These gene banks are located at the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi; Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), Lucknow; and Tropical Botanical Garden & Research Institute (TBGRI), Trivandrum respectively. There is no plan to set up such banks at present in Rajasthan or Orissa.

****Previously Unstarred Question No. 3305 transferred from 24th December, 1993.

(c) The Gene Bank at TBGRI would concentrate its activity in peninsular India. The NBPGR and CIMAP banks would, between them, cover the other biogeographic regions of the country. All the three gene banks are being equipped with state-of-the art infrastructure including seed and field banks, tissue culture repository, and cryobank. They would carry out not only surveys and explorations of assigned regions, but also collection, characterization, documentation, and development of database so as to conserve the valuable germplasm resources of medicinal and aromatic species. Training of personnel, is an integral part of the banks' activity.

(d) Budgetary provisions have been made for 1993-94. The three gene banks are entirely funded by the government of India, and as of now no international funding is expected.

FINDINGS OF SPACE RESEARCH

3272. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN :
SHRI J. S. RAJU :
SHRI MISA R. GANESAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) in what way space research has provided findings for peaceful purposes in the country; and

(b) by when Government expect favourable findings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) The Space research in the country has resulted in establishment of space based systems for providing services in the areas of communication, meteorology, resource survey and management.

The Indian National Satellite (INSAT) system is providing operational services in the areas such as long distance communication. TV broadcasting radio networking, meteorological data relay, disaster warning and search and rescue.

The Indian Remote Sensing (IRS) satellite systems are providing operational services in areas such as agricultural crop acreage and yield estimation, drought warning and assessment, flood control and damage assessment, land use/land cover mapping for agro-climatic planning, waste-land management, water resources management, ocean/marine resource survey and management, urban development, mineral prospecting, forest resources survey and management etc.

Also, the coutry, over the years through he space research programme has built space capability not only for application in several vital areas of national development benefiting the grass roots of the Indian society, but also has led to development of several high technologies as well as some high calibra Indian industries.

Thus, today Space research has become a vital element of the country's infrastructure development.

(b) Does, not arise.

12.00 NOON

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Report (1993-94) and Accounts (1992-93) of the Indian Airlines, New Delhi and related papers.

II. Report and Accounts (1992-93) of the Air India, Bombay and related papers.

III. Notification of the International Airports Authority of India, New Delhi.

IV. Notification of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : Madam, I lay on the Table—

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (2) of section 37 and sub-section (4) of section 15 of the Air Corporations Act 1953 :—

(a) Annual Report of the Indian Airlines, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, under sub-section (2) of section 37 of the Air Corporations Act, 1953.

(b) Annual Accounts of the Indian Airlines, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 15 of the Air Corporations Act, 1953.

(c) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-5226|93]

II. (a) Forteith Annual Report of the Air India, Bombay for the year 1992-93.

(b) Annual Accounts of the Air India, Bombay for the year 1992-93, and the Audit Report thereon.

(c) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4965/93].

III. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the International Airports Authority of India, New Delhi, Notification No. Cargo|1351|9|Pt. 1, dated the 26th June, 1993, publishing the International Airports Authority (Storage and Processing of Goods) Regulation, 1993, under sub-section (4) of section 37 of the International Airports Authority Act, 1971, together with an explanatory memorandum thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-5227|93]

IV. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism Notification No. G. S. R. 637(E), dated the 4th October, 1993, publishing the Aircraft (Third Amendment) Rules, 1993, under section 14-a of the Aircraft Act, 1934, together with an explanatory memorandum thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4964|93]

I. Uttar Pradesh Municipalities, Notified Areas and Town Areas (Alpakalik Vyavastha) Amendment Act, 1993.

II. Notification of the Delhi Urban Art Commission, New Delhi.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL) : Madam, I lay on the Table—

I. A copy of the Uttar Pradesh Municipalities, Notified Areas and Town Areas (Alpkalik Vyavastha) Amendment Act, 1993, under sub-section (3) of section 3 of the Uttar Pradesh State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Act, 1993.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-5228|93]

II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Delhi Urban Art Commission, New Delhi, Notification No. 3(8)|86-DAUC, dated the 25rd October, 1993, publishing the Delhi Urban Art Commission (Ministerial and Non-Ministerial Posts) Recruitment (Amendment) Regulations, 1993, under sub-section (2) of section 27 of the Delhi Urban Art Commission Act, 1973.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4878|93]

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : (उत्तर प्रदेश): मैडम डिप्टी चैयरमेन, आयटम नंबर- 2 के आयटम नंबर-1 पर मुझे कुछ कहना है।

उपसभापति : कहिए।

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA : The item says : "A copy of the Uttar Pradesh Municipalities, Notified Areas and Town Areas (Alpkalik Vyavastha) Amendment Act, 1993, under sub-section (3) of section 3 of the Uttar Pradesh State Legislaure (Delegation of Powers) Act, 1993."

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Will there be some peace in the House because the Minister has to listen and answer ?

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : मैडम, मेरी एक आपत्ति तो यह है कि जिस आदेश की प्रतिलिपि सदन के पटल पर रखे जाने वाली है, वह आदेश किस तारीख को उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने जारी